

Exhibit Number: 3

**This exhibit is a booklet
Which can not be scanned,
the front cover has been
scanned to aid in your
research the original is on
file at the Montana
Historical Society and may
be viewed there.**



Volume 4

Issue 3

December 2006

∞ Infinity

The Montana Community Foundation Newsletter

Good Granting

Valley Event Center draws wide support

About 10 years ago, a group of northeastern Montana parents quietly began looking for a place for their kids to skate and hone their ice hockey skills. Over time, land was acquired and a large, enclosed building began taking shape along Highway 2 in **Glasgow**. Just last year, the dream of those founding parents came true with funding from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust for a huge concrete floor and the refrigeration and heating equipment to maintain indoor ice for a five-month hockey season. The final piece of equipment—a compressor to make the ice—was purchased earlier this year with a grant from Valley County's local community foundation.

The **Valley County Community Foundation** was one of two recipients of the Montana Community Foundation's first round of grants through its Local Community Foundation (LCF) Leadership Program. The leadership grant, in the amount of \$15,000, allowed residents to complete the compressor room for the Valley Event Center, known locally as the VEC.

Leadership grant evaluators were impressed by the county-wide effort that went into building the facility. Beginning in early 2004, Two Rivers Economic Growth conducted an economic development assessment of Valley County in conjunction with the Montana Economic Development Association. Nearly 200 people representing all walks of life were interviewed to assess the county's strengths, weaknesses and economic opportunities. When asked what projects they would like to see for the community, more than half expressed support for the VEC as a way to engage kids, provide a meeting and event center for residents and a destination for visitors.

Now nearly complete, Glasgow's year-round, two-story, multi-purpose event center stands as a monument to those parents' efforts and is a source of pride for the entire county.

continued on page 5